

EC-IV-M/59

ICIS SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED GOVERNMENT DATA


MINUTES OF MEETING

OCTOBER 22, 1951

The ICIS Subcommittee on Protection of Classified Government Data met on Monday, October 22, 1951, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 5218, Department of Justice. The following members were present:

Department of Justice:	Mr. T. Oscar Smith, Alternate Acting Chairman
Department of Defense:	Col. Sidney S. Rubenstein
Department of State:	Mr. Charles Dulin, Alternate
Department of Commerce:	Mr. Norman E. Toulson

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CIA Ad Hoc Representative:	
ABC Ad Hoc Representative:	Mr. William Riley
Treasury Ad Hoc Representative:	Mr. William W. Harrison
Secretary, ICIS:	Mr. Leonard P. Nienvon Miss Helen R. McKee

STATINTL

1. Minutes

Consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on October 11, 1951, was postponed until the next meeting.

2. Implementation of Executive Order 10290
Minimum Standards on Handling and Transmission
of Classified Data.

The Subcommittee continued its consideration of recommendations it should make to ICIS on the implementation of the President's directive in regard to the above-mentioned Executive Order.

The Secretary informed the subcommittee that in accordance with its decision at the last meeting he had informed the ICIS of the subcommittee's preliminary recommendations which the ICIS adopted in principle. He was instructed by the ICIS to contact the NSC Representative on Internal Security and request him to take whatever action possible towards the appointment of the Executive Secretary for the Security Advisory Committee to be financed by the President's Emergency Fund. The subcommittee's recommendations on the composition of the committee will be cleared immediately upon receipt with the individual members of the ICIS and if approved the agencies to be represented thereon will be asked to designate representatives as soon as possible.

The Subcommittee discussed the composition of the Security Advisory Committee, which it has recommended be established, and agreed on the following: It should be composed of not less than 5 and not more than 7 members from the following agencies: Departments of State, Commerce, Defense and Justice, the Atomic Energy Commission and the Central Intelligence Agency. The Department of Justice Representative will reflect the views of non-sensitive agencies whereas the representatives of the remaining agencies will represent the views of the sensitive agencies. The CIA and AEC ad hoc representatives abstained from voting on representation from their agencies inasmuch as time did not permit final clearance or settlement of this matter in their agencies. Representation from the sensitive agencies should consist of personnel in the security division in those agencies and representation from the Department of Justice should not be so limited.

The question of representation of information officers on the Security Advisory Committee was discussed and the subcommittee agreed that as occasion warrants information officers in the government will be heard by the committee on matters of concern to them.

The subcommittee also agreed that if there are any questions or inquiries from the press, those questions or inquiries should be directed to the White House or to the ICIS and the executive secretary of the Security Advisory Committee should be available to those bodies for any consultation deemed necessary by them.

The subcommittee further agreed that it will recommend to the ICIS: 1) a general outline of the responsibility and authority of the Security Advisory Committee and 2) that the specific responsibilities of the committee be determined by the committee itself. The Justice Representative dissented from this decision since he was of the opinion that the committee's authority and responsibilities are set forth in the President's directive and it was not necessary to do so at this time.

The subcommittee agreed to proceed with the problem relating to the responsibility of ICIS to furnish advice and assistance to the various agencies and departments without making any determination as to the authority vested in ICIS to review the administration of the executive order. The latter problem will be considered later.

The subcommittee agreed on the following definitions of the responsibility and authority of the committee:

1. Under the general supervision of the ICIS to initiate and maintain contact with the executive agencies of the government for the purpose of providing advice and assistance with a view to achieving uniform application of Executive Order 10290.
2. The committee has no authority to require the establishment of any policy or procedure within any agency.
3. The security advisory committee is authorized to refer to ICIS for appropriate action any matter coming to its attention of non-compliance with Executive Order 10290.

In regard to subparagraph 1 above, the Treasury Representative dissented. Concerning the question of combining paragraphs 2 and 3, the AEC, CIA, State, Commerce and Defense Representatives were agreed that they should stand alone while the Justice and Treasury Representatives were of the opinion they should be combined.

A brief discussion was held concerning the suggestions made by the ICIS and it was proposed that these suggestions should be considered by the Security Advisory Committee rather than by the subcommittee. This proposal will be considered further at the next meeting as well as the above mentioned definitions of the responsibility and authority of the committee.